



News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

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Kind Emphasizes American Values and Priorities in Budget Battle

American values of responsible budgeting; priorities of fiscal control, education and social security

Washington, DC – Today, U.S. Rep. Ron Kind, a member of the House Budget Committee emphasized the need for government to let American values and priorities guide this year's budget process. Kind urged his colleagues to apply the same fiscal responsibility to the federal budget process that a hard working American would in crafting a personal budget. Kind also outlined important American priorities that were absent in the President's 2005 budget proposal including social security protections and a fulfilled commitment to education.

"In just three years we have witnessed the greatest disappearing act of federal funds to date. The \$5.6 trillion ten-year surplus projected when the President took office has been replaced by deficits extending far into the future," said Rep. Kind. The President's budget only reminds Americans that his policies have resulted in a multitude of unfunded liabilities and unfunded mandates."

Kind questioned the administration's plan to extend tax cuts for millionaires at the expense of increased deficits and decreased funding for important government commitments to job creation, education and social security. The Budget Committee rejected several Democratic amendments to meet government's obligation to federal programs on party line votes.

"Deficits and debts do matter, and if we don't change the cavalier approach that majority lawmakers have taken with the budget we endanger the financial security of our children and grandchildren," said Rep. Kind. "We have an opportunity to produce an honest and responsible budget, and any failure to do so will result in more red ink to be inherited by future generations."

The Budget Committee will reconvene on Wednesday, March 17 to finish business on the federal budget.